CONFIDENTIAL
(When Filled In)

Date _____

1. Agency _____

   Component/location _____

   My position (job title) _____

   Fields of responsibility (geographic area and/or specialty) _____

   _____

2. I have been contributing to the NIS for _____ years and have contributed a total

   of _____ sections.

	Area/topic	Year produced
Please specify NIS recently contributed	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____

3. The NIS effort took _____ 0 – 25% of my time during 1968 (please check)

   _____ 26 – 50%

   _____ 51 – 75%

   _____ 76 – 100%

4. In addition to NIS, I contribute to the following intelligence products: _____

   _____

   _____

   _____

CONFIDENTIAL
(When Filled In)

5. The following are ranked in the order that they apply to the circumstances under which I produce NIS, using 1 as most applicable:

_____ a. Sufficient time to do a good job in appropriate depth

_____ b. Barely adequate time to do a passable job

_____ c. A better job could be done but only at the expense of other products

_____ d. More than enough time to do a good job in appropriate depth

_____ e. Often produced on a crash basis because other projects have higher priority

6. In preparing an NIS, I rely on the following sources (please specify percentage contribution of each):

_____ % a. Other elements of the NIS

_____ % b. Open (unclassified) literature or sources

_____ % c. Classified documents (please give examples) _____

_____

_____

_____ % d. Oral reports (debriefings, interviews)

_____ % e. Other sources (please specify) _____

_____

_____

7. a. I spend _____ % of my NIS time in research.

   b. I spend _____ % of my NIS time in writing.

8. Timeliness and quality of collection support for my NIS production needs are in general:

_____ a. Reliable and adequate

_____ b. Erratic but adequate

_____ c. Unreliable and inadequate

_____ d. Reliable but inadequate

9. My NIS research and writing efforts are:

_____ a. Usually also applicable to other projects

_____ b. Occasionally applicable to other projects

_____ c. Not applicable to other projects

_____ d. Duplicative of other projects

-2-
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL
(When Filled In)

10. My efforts on other products are:

_____ a. Usually also applicable to the NIS

_____ b. Occasionally applicable to the NIS

_____ c. Not applicable to the NIS

_____ d. Duplicative of the NIS

11. I consider my NIS product to be useful (responsive to consumer needs) on the basis of:

_____ a. Direct consumer reaction

_____ b. Indirect consumer reaction

_____ c. Lack of complaints

_____ d. I don't know whether it is useful

_____ e. I don't consider it useful

12. I would consider the following mechanisms potentially the most helpful for guidance on NIS user needs. Rank using 1 as the highest:

_____ a. Direct communication with user

_____ b. Supervisory guidance

_____ c. Incorporation of user needs into format/outline

_____ d. Other (please specify) _____

_____

13. On the basis of my experience the following changes would enhance production efficiency and increase product utility. (Such aspects as the type and level of guidance in NIS Standard Instructions, procedures for editorial worknotes and conferences, use of graphics, text/tabular balance, publication processing, and overall effectiveness of presentation might be discussed.) _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

(answer may be continued on the reverse)

_____

Signature (optional)

-3-

24 October 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR: All NIS General Survey Contributing Offices

SUBJECT: Refocusing the General Survey

1.   Returns of the recently conducted NIS User Survey include the views expressed by some users that the General Survey is, in many cases, too narrowly focused, easily outdated by events, and encumbered by extraneous detail.   These comments imply that the General Survey has drifted from its assigned task of providing concise but summary basic intelligence that transcends the specialized needs of individual departments and agencies of the U.S. Government.

2.   General Survey political coverage, for example, often stresses current analysis and highly perishable "slice in time" writing that requires constant updating during processing and that soon goes out of date when on the shelves.   Current-type analysis that includes the names and background details of government functionaries requiring constant noting of dates reduces unnecessarily the durability of the information.   In similar fashion, General Survey geographic coverage -- although the title of Section 2 was changed from Military Geography in 1967 -- continues to concentrate primarily on the specialized needs of the military.

3.   It would appear that some refocusing of the General Survey is in order.   First, the content should emphasize the overview function by further streamlining of presentation -- deemphasizing perishability and concentrating on those relatively enduring factors which are distinctive of particular country situations, which condition and reflect their peoples and institutions, and which tend to set parameters for change and development.   Second, certain coverage which now primarily responds to specialized needs of particular users should be recast to increase the general interest content and to achieve closer interrelationship with related coverage appearing elsewhere in the General Survey. Relocation of some topics may be indicated.

4.   Accordingly, it is requested that all NIS producers review not only General Survey outline guides appropriate to their production responsibility but also their own detailed supplementary instructions to analysts. Appropriate staff personnel in OBGI are prepared to provide assistance in the drafting of new or revised instructions. Arrangements will be made to meet with contributing offices to work out the details.

JAMES A. BRAMMELL
Chairman
NIS Committee

25X1A

- 2 -

13 April 1970

National Intelligence Survey

1. <u>What is the NIS?</u>

   In general terms, the National Intelligence Survey Program

is the official basic intelligence encyclopedia of the U.S. Govern-

ment on foreign areas of primary interest to the United States. It

is factual information on the relatively unchanging natural features,

fundamental characteristics, and basic resources of foreign areas,

including their geography, transportation, communications, social

characteristics, politics, economy, science, and armed forces.

2. <u>Why is NIS needed?</u>

   The NIS Program is the direct result of World War II

experience -- when there was a dearth of usable information on

foreign countries, friend and foe alike. In the Pacific, for example,

the Navy and Marines launched amphibious operations against islands

for which little reliable intelligence existed -- the inability of the

Higgins boats to clear the reef at Betio Atoll is a prime example of

operating in areas where intelligence is unconfirmed or nonexistent.

   Although steps had been taken to provide a structured program

of coordinated, authoritative, and reliable basic intelligence as early

as 1943, the NIS was officially established in January 1948 under the

National Security Council Intelligence Directive No. 3.

The NIS Program is fully coordinated among the most knowledgeable departments and agencies of the government to insure an authoritative and common intelligence base. Production responsibilities initially were allocated to the Department of State, Army, Navy, Air, and CIA and other agencies of the government best able to provide the variety of information and analysis required.

3. <u>Why is the Program called National Intelligence?</u>

The NIS is recognized to be national intelligence because its production transcends the competence of any one department or agency. Published and disseminated under the coordination responsibility of the Director of Central Intelligence, NIS products are designed to satisfy the broad needs of the government rather than the specialized needs of any individual department or agency.

Slide #4

4. <u>What is the role of basic intelligence?</u>

Basic intelligence takes its place along with current and estimative intelligence in support of national security planning. As shown in this slide, all three categories are needed. Using a tripod to illustrate, if any of the legs is removed or any fails to provide adequate support, the structure would fall. Current intelligence can be likened to the morning newspaper. Daily and

Slide #5

2

weekly intelligence bulletins, briefings, and memoranda prepared for White House consumption are examples. On the other hand, basic intelligence which must continually be updated by current intelligence, is the result of tedious research and analysis and provides factual background information against which the current analysis and reporting can be interpreted to form the sophisticated judgments about future developments that are found in our national estimates, the third category. In effect, each of these categories is dependent on the other for the accuracy and completeness of its own products.

5. What is the current NIS concept?

Slide
#6
b/c~

This slide is a more formal statement of the concept of the NIS Program. The features which set it apart from departmental basic intelligence have been sustained through its 20-year history. First, it is a coordinated interagency program directed toward community rather than individual department needs. Second, it provides an authoritative base or takeoff point for a variety of intelligence reports, briefings, and other publications. Third, and this is its most important feature, it is on-hand, readily available in crisis situations. While the NIS is comprehensive in scope, it is for various reasons, principally budgetary, selective in detail. It cannot hope to meet all the detailed specialized needs

of the planners and operators in the Department of State, Joint

Chiefs of Staff, the armed forces, and other agencies.

6. What are the NIS Products?

The NIS must at one and the same time be both inclusive in

coverage and selective in detailed treatment. It includes, there-

fore, both concise summary overviews and more expanded detailed

analysis of certain topics.

a. General Survey -- The basic unit is the General Survey,

which provides comprehensive but concise coverage of the basic

characteristics of the areas and, as shown in this slide, includes

across-the-board topical coverage. Produced systematically on

about 120 countries, it is revised periodically on an average cycle

of 4 years -- with those countries of most immediate concern to

the U.S. updated most frequently. The General Survey may provide

the only NIS coverage on some countries. Barbados and Mongolia

are examples.

b. Detailed units -- Complementing the General Survey,

extensive coverage of certain topics for some areas is provided

selectively in separate detailed NIS units. Such production is

based on examination of individual country situations and an explicit

determination that more detailed information is needed than is

feasible in the balanced overview which the General Survey is designed

to provide. Some topics, such as Topography, Ports and Naval

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

Facilities, and Urban Areas, by their very nature, require

large and numerous maps and other graphics -- too bulky for

inclusion in the single-volume General Survey. These must

necessarily be published as separate units.

Effective graphics presentation is a prime NIS objective.

To illustrate, these slides have been taken directly from graphics

appearing in NIS publications:

    (1) A GEMINI shot of the Nile delta   *Good*   Slide #9

    (2) Ethnic map of South Vietnam   *Worked at*   Slide #10

    (3) Photo of Ecuador racial types   *Black Spots to promote*   Slide #11

    (4) League of Communists of Yugoslavia   *Don't need.*   Slide #12

    (5) Chart of military uniforms of South Vietnam Air Force   *Good.*   Slide #13

    c. <u>Basic Intelligence Factbook</u> -- Supplementing both the

General Survey and detailed units, the NIS Basic Intelligence Factbook   Slide #14

provides semiannual updating of key political, economic, and military   *Cover & 1/2 intro page*

data, such as is highlighted in the Area Brief of each General Survey.

The Factbook receives the widest dissemination of any single NIS

product. Some 180 areas are included, and about 2,500 copies are

disseminated.

    d. <u>NIS Gazetteers</u> -- NIS gazetteers of geographic names,   Slide #15

with spellings and diacritics as approved by the U.S. Board on

Geographic Names, have been issued on all areas of the world.

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

e. Inventory of Available NIS Publications -- An up-to-date
listing of all the above NIS products available -- by individual
country or area, individual section, and date of issuance -- is pro-
vided by the Quarterly Inventory of Available NIS Publications.
Designed to facilitate ordering of NIS units, this listing is also bound
into the concurrent Factbook.

Slide #16

7. How is the production and administration of NIS organized?

Slide #17

The interagency aspect of the NIS is shown in this slide. In FY71,
however, NIS production allocations will be limited to DIA and CIA
supported by only two nonintelligence agencies, Census Bureau and
the Business Defense Services Administration in Commerce. State
Department, at one time a large NIS producer, now provides important
advisory support, including field review of NIS sociological, political,
and economic coverage.

The NIS Committee, a permanent subcommittee of the United
States Intelligence Board, assists USIB in providing policy direction
to the NIS Program. The NIS Committee consists of a designated
representative from the Department of State, CIA, DIA, and the
Departments of Army, Navy, and Air Force. The CIA representative
is the Chairman of the Committee. CIA is responsible for the general
administration of the NIS Program and provides administrative and
secretarial support to the Committee and its Chairman as a service
of common concern.

8. How useful is the NIS?

As already indicated, the current series of NIS products is designed to satisfy more than one requirement level in terms of the detail provided. The Factbook is a frequently updated, quick rundown of key data about a country. The General Survey gives a concise, balanced, across-the-board overview. The detailed units selectively provide indepth analysis of certain topics of high national interest.

A recent government-wide survey of NIS usefulness, responded to by over 1,000 users, showed that 40% of all NIS use is for general background and orientation. Most responders who used NIS regularly found that it supplied information in a convenient assembled form not otherwise available. Some Foreign Service posts have made the NIS General Survey required reading for all new personnel as part of their indoctrination. The User Survey showed that almost 50% of the users had turned to the NIS in crash or crisis situations, indicating that the on-the-shelf availability of NIS is one of its most important features. Doubt frequently has been expressed about how a comprehensive and structured program like the NIS can possibly be kept up to date in a rapidly changing international scene. Current policy is to concentrate on what is under-lying and enduring about a country, while deemphasizing the more perishable current and transient aspects. Interagency coordination

7

and review are time-consuming elements of the NIS production process, but they pay off in terms of the image of reliability and authority that the NIS Program enjoys.

To insure that this image is sustained, an organized effort on the part of NIS policymakers is underway not only to gain a better insight into government requirements for basic intelligence but also to keep current and potential NIS users better informed as to the nature of the NIS products. This presentation is part of that new consumer-relations program.

8